

Message Text

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43

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 NEA-06 ISO-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15

RSC-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-05 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06

PRS-01 SAJ-01 /065 W

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R 121538Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3497

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BERN

/USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS 316

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY OSLO

USLO PEKING

C O N F I D E N T I A L STOCKHOLM 5512

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SW

SUBJECT: SOLZHENITZEN

1. I TALKED BRIEFLY WITH SOLZHENITZEN AT THE KING'S DINNER FOR THE NOBEL LAUREATES DECEMBER 11. WHEN I ASKED HIM IF HE HAD PLANS FOR A US VISIT, HE SAID HE WOULD LIKE TO COME TO THE US SOON AND WOULD TELL THE YOUTH OF AMERICAN THEY FOUGHT FOR FREEDOM IN VIETNAM.

2.I COULDN'T RESIST TELLING THIS TO PRIME MINISTER PALME AND FOREIGN MINISTER ANDERSSON. PALME LOOKED SOUR FOR A WHILE, THEN REMARKED "HE'S PLAYING INTO THE HANDS OF THE SOVIETS."

3. ANDERSSON REPEATED FAMILIAR THEMES ABOUT SOLZHENITZEN, "A DEEPLY RELIGIOUS MAN," REPRESENTING "THE OLD NATIONALIST RUSSIA." ANDERSSON ADDED, SOMEWHAT IRRELEVANTLY, THAT THE

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VERY NAME "RUSSIA" HAD EVOLVED FROM THE NAME OF THE VIKING

INVADERS FROM THE ROSLAG AREA NORTHEAST OF STOCKHOLM.

4. DECEMBER 11, I UNDERSTAND, CHANCED TO BE SOLZHENITZEN'S 56TH BIRTHDAY. THE ASSEMBLAGE SANG "HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ALEXANDER."

5. SOLZHENITZEN HAS ENCOUNTERED GREAT WARMTH AND RESPECT FROM THE SWEDISH MAN IN THE STREET. FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS, FOR THEIR PART, SEEM DETERMINED TO FOLLOW A MIDDLE COURSE, APPLAUDING HIM AT APPROPRIATE MOMENTS BUT ONLY IN A RESTRAINED MANNER.

6. AT THE AWARDS CEREMONY, ACCORDING TO COLLEAGUES IN A BETTER POSITION THAN I TO BSER THEM, THE INDIAN, ROMANIAN AND CHINESE AMBASSADORS IN ATTENDANCE REFRAINED FROM JOINING THE REST OF THE ASSEMBLAGE IN APPLAUDING SOLZHENITZEN AT THE APPROPRIATE MOMENT WHEN THE KING HANDED HIM HIS PRIZE. THE INDIAN AMBASSADOR (DAMODARAN) TOLD COLLEAGUES HE DIDN'T WANT TO "MAKE A POLITICAL DEMONSTRATION."
STRAUSZ-HUPE

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